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Message Text

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50
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

COME-00 DRC-01 /153 W
---------- 025640
R 051215Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5447
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT UNN
AMEMBASSY BANJUL UNN

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS, AORG, XA, SG
SUBJ: SENEGAL DECLARATION ON WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC GROUPING

1. SENEGAL'S MINISTER OF INFORMATION DAOUDA SOW, IN ROUTINE SERIES OF COMMENTS TO PRESS ON WEEKLY CABINET MEETING JANUARY 2, ANSWERED QUESTION CONCERNING THE CEAO MEETING AT LOME, ATTENDED BY MIN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT LOUIS ALEXANDRENNE LAST MONTH:
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2. SOW REPLIED POSITION OF SENEGAL WELL KNOWN; SINCE 1963 IT HAS CALLED FOR CREATION OF REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL GROUPINGS AS BASIS FOR AFRICAN UNITY. BUT FOR A GROUP TO BE WORTHWHILE IT MUST BE CREATED ON SOLID BASIS.

3. THE INITIATIVE OF THE CONFERENCE AT LOME WHICH CAME FROM NIGERIA AND TOGO AND WHICH 15 AFRICAN COUNTRIES ATTENDED DOES NOT MEET THE APPROVAL OF THE GOS. QTE SENEGAL IS ENTIRELY IN AGREEMENT FOR THE CREATION OF A COMMUNITY WHICH WOULD EXTEND FROM THE ATLANTIC TO ZAIRE, BUT IT CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN A GROUPING OF 15 COUNTRIES IN WHICH ONE STATE, BY ITS POPULATION, WOULD DOMINATE ALL THE OTHERS. UNQTE.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS UNCHARACTERISTICALLY STRONG COMMENT FOR A GOS SPOKESMAN, SINCE SENEGAL USUALLY PREFERS AT LEAST PUBLICLY NOT TO RULE OUT REGIONAL FORMULATIONS BY OTHER, WHILE GOING AHEAD AND ACTING AS IT CHOOSES WITH REGARD TO THEM. TO WHAT EXTENT SOW'S SHUTTING DOOR ON GOS PARTICIPATION IN A WEST AFRICAN GROUPING WITH NIGERIA AS MEMBER IS EXPRESSION OF FIRM GOS POLICY REMAINS TO BE SEEN.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MEETINGS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DAKAR00051
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740160/aaaacezf.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 APR 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <24 APR 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SENEGAL DECLARATION ON WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC GROUPING
TAGS: PINS, AORG, XA, SG, CEAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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